

PEDIATRIC

BASIC LIFE SUPPORT GUIDELINE

TACHYCARDIA

INDICATIONS:

Increased heart rate

- Infants- rate greater than 220
- Children- rate greater than 180

CAUSES OF TACHYCARDIA IN INFANTS AND CHILDREN:

- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Bleeding
- Hypoxia
- Pneumothorax
- Congenital Heart Disease

1. Assess ABC's.
2. Administer 100% oxygen.
3. Complete initial assessment:
 - Respiratory Difficulty
 - Cyanosis despite O2 administration
 - Cool skin temperature
 - Hypotension
 - No palpable blood pressure
 - Weak, thready, absent pulses
 - Decreasing consciousness
4. Support ABC's:
 - Secure airway
 - Support ventilation
 - Pulse oximetry if available
 - Assess mental status
 - Keep child warm
5. Consider need for ALS tiered response (if available):
 - Initiate transport
 - Perform focused history and detailed physical exam en route to the hospital
 - Reassess patient frequently
 - Contact receiving medical facility

The Idaho EMSC Project has taken extreme caution to ensure all information is accurate and in accordance with professional standards in effect at the time of publication. This guideline is for reference and may be modified at the discretion of the EMS Medical Director. It is recommended that care be based on the child's clinical presentation and on authorized policies and protocols.